



## Community College Property Tax Revenue

Iowa's 15 community college districts are permitted to levy taxes against the value of taxable property within the boundaries of each district. In addition to the General Levy, there are currently eight special purpose levies available to the colleges under specific circumstances. Six of the nine levies require simple board approval; the three exceptions are noted below.

In FY 2013, statewide community college revenue from property tax levies totaled \$114.4 million, an increase of 4.3% compared to FY 2012. Since FY 2003, statewide property tax revenue for community colleges has increased 79.1%. In FY 2012, property tax revenue represented 12.5% of budgeted revenue.

### Property Tax Levies

The following are the levies available to the community colleges and the rate restrictions for each:

- General – to fund the general operation of the college. Limited to \$0.20250 per \$1,000 in valuation.
- Tort Liability – to fund tort-related settlements. Limited to the amount necessary.
- Insurance – to fund insurance premiums for loss of property, environmental hazards, or other risks. Limited to amount necessary.
- Unemployment Compensation – to fund unemployment benefits for college employees. Limited to amount necessary.
- Early Retirement – to fund early retirement benefits for college employees. Limited to amount necessary.
- Equipment – to fund equipment replacement, program sharing, and instructional equipment. Limited to \$0.03000 per \$1,000 in valuation for equipment replacement. Board may seek voter approval for additional \$0.06000 per \$1,000 in valuation for program sharing and instructional equipment.
- Standby – to secure the payment of certificates for the Iowa Industrial New Jobs Training Program. Limited to \$0.27000 per \$1,000 in valuation.
- Plant – to fund major building repair, grounds, construction, libraries, and utilities. Limited to \$0.20250 per \$1,000 valuation. Requires voter approval.
- Bond and Interest – to fund principal and interest on bonds. Limited to the amount necessary. Requires 60.0% voter approval.

### Current Use of Levies

For FY 2013, six of the nine levies are used by all of the colleges, while the Unemployment Levy is used by 12, the Standby Levy is used by four, and the Bond and Interest Levy is used by eight. All 15 colleges levy at the maximum allowable rates for the General and Plant levies, as well as the maximum voter-approved rate for Equipment Replacement. **Table 1** shows the FY 2013 levy rates by college and levy.

### More Information

Condition of Community College Reports:

[http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=2758&catid=183&Itemid=2182](http://www.educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2758&catid=183&Itemid=2182)

Dept. of Management Community College Tax Rate Information: [http://www.dom.state.ia.us/local/misc/comm\\_college.html](http://www.dom.state.ia.us/local/misc/comm_college.html)

Iowa General Assembly: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/index.aspx>

LSA Staff Contact: Robin Madison (515-281-5270) [robin.madison@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:robin.madison@legis.iowa.gov)

## Community College Property Tax Revenue

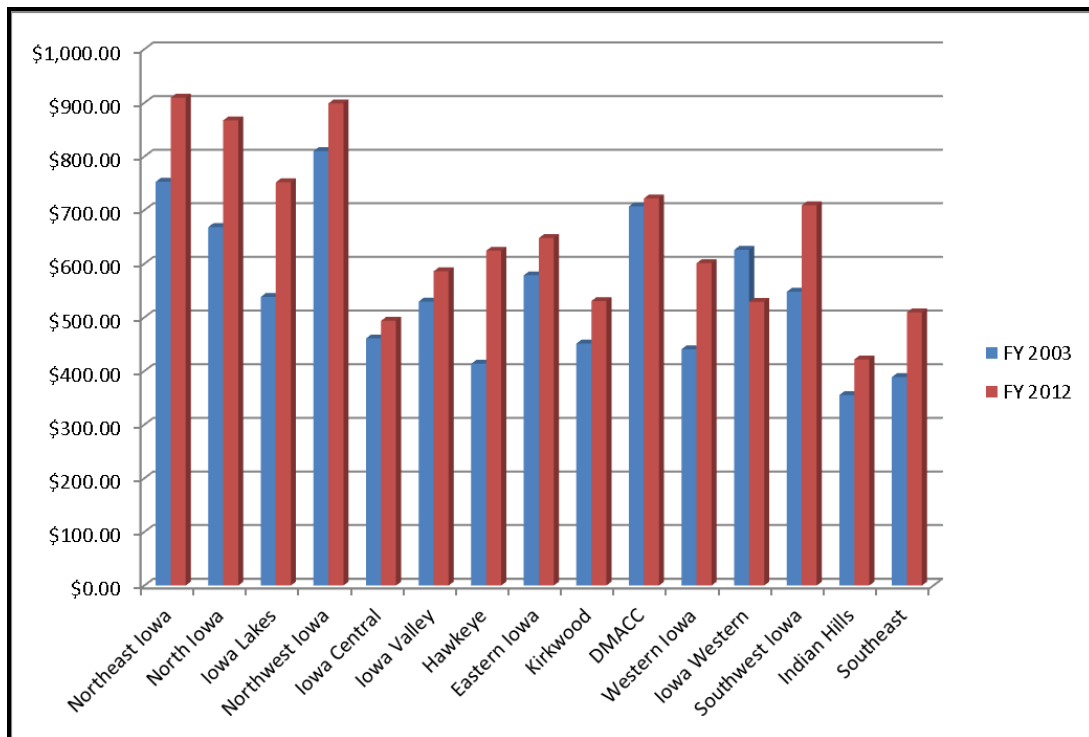
**Table 1**  
**FY 2013 Community College Property Tax Levy Rates**

	General	Unemployment	Tort Liability	Insurance	Early Retirement	Equipment	Standby	Plant	Bonds/Interest	Total
Northeast Iowa	0.20250	0.00163	0.02122	0.02896	0.05890	0.09000		0.20250	0.37836	0.98407
North Iowa Area	0.20250	0.02221	0.01628	0.03405	0.09294	0.09000	0.00115	0.20250		0.66163
Iowa Lakes	0.20250		0.03352	0.13408	0.08141	0.09000	0.02394	0.20250		0.76795
Northwest Iowa	0.20250		0.02744	0.03598	0.08537	0.09000		0.20250		0.64379
Iowa Central	0.20250	0.00585	0.04385	0.04385	0.04385	0.09000		0.20250	0.18733	0.81973
Iowa Valley	0.20250	0.01580	0.04551	0.24407	0.10180	0.09000		0.20250	0.98493	1.88711
Hawkeye	0.20250	0.00242	0.02058	0.07264	0.01005	0.09000		0.20250	0.36000	0.96069
Eastern Iowa	0.20250	0.00201	0.00405	0.03580	0.07830	0.09000	0.01339	0.20250	0.28656	0.91511
Kirkwood	0.20250	0.01374	0.00179	0.09258	0.27577	0.09000		0.20250	0.20000	1.07888
Des Moines Area	0.20250	0.00221	0.01001	0.06493	0.01251	0.09000		0.20250		0.58466
Western Iowa	0.20250	0.00734	0.02544	0.19339	0.05732	0.09000		0.20250		0.77849
Iowa Western	0.20250	0.00723	0.01506	0.06625	0.13928	0.09000		0.20057	0.38095	1.10184
Southwestern	0.20250	0.00374	0.01870	0.06733	0.13092	0.09000	0.07855	0.20250		0.79424
Indian Hills	0.20250		0.08801	0.12058	0.08401	0.09000		0.20250		0.78760
Southeastern	0.20250	0.01101	0.06864	0.14887	0.10108	0.09000		0.20250	0.19216	1.01676

### Property Tax Revenue per FTEE

Between FY 2003 and FY 2013, the General, Equipment, and Plant Levies were the largest, most consistently used levies across Iowa. Total statewide revenue from these three levies grew by \$21.1 million or 45.8%. Revenue from these levies per full-time equivalent enrollment (FTEE) grew from \$544 in FY 2003 to \$631 in FY 2012. **Chart 1** shows the revenue per FTEE from the three levies by college for FY 2003 and FY 2012. (NOTE: The FY 2012 FTEE data is the latest available.)

**Chart 1**  
**Community College Revenue from Major Levies per FTEE**

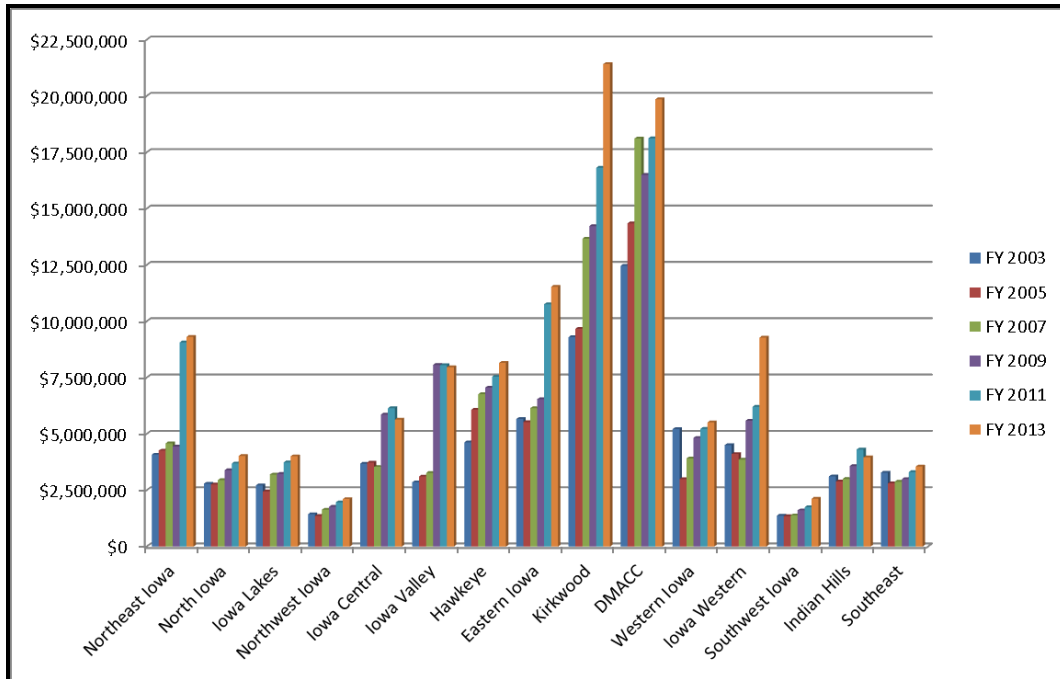


### Total Revenue from Property Tax Levies

Between FY 2003 and FY 2013, property tax revenue for each college increased. There have been minor annual fluctuations and some significant annual increases among the colleges. **Chart 2** shows the trend in growth of property tax revenue by college between FY 2003 and FY 2013.

## Community College Property Tax Revenue

**Chart 2**  
**Community College Property Tax Revenues**



### Taxable Valuation

Between FY 2003 and FY 2012, total statewide taxable valuation (including utility replacement) increased by \$34.9 billion to a total of \$139.4 billion. However, over the same period, valuation per FTEE increased by only \$123,000 statewide. **Chart 3** shows the taxable valuation per FTEE by college for FY 2003 and FY 2012.

**Chart 3**  
**Community College Taxable Valuation per FTEE**

